

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

INFORMATION REPORT

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SECURITY INFORMATION

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COUNTRY China
 SUBJECT Military Activities and Troop Dispositions, Canton Area

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REFERENCES

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1. In January 1953, ten thousand troops of HAN Tien-wen's (7281/3013/2429)¹ 121 Division, 41 Army, equipped with Soviet, Japanese, and American arms, were deployed along the Canton-Kowloon railroad (CKRR).
2. Between 25 December and 3 January, two thousand men of WANG Shih-pang's (3076/1709/6721) 392 Regiment, 132 Division,³ moved to reinforce defenses at Shench'uan (N 22-32, E 114-08) and along the CKRR.
3. Also stationed along the CKRR are seven thousand troops of the 3 Kwangtung Garrison's Independent Artillery Battalion,⁴ commanded by JUNG T'ieh (1369/6993), and an unspecified number of Chinese and Japanese troops of the 31 Artillery Regiment,⁵ commanded by CHANG Chao-sheng (1728/5128/3932).
4. On 28 January one hundred troops of the Central and South China Military Area Engineer Corps, based at Canton, moved to Shench'uan, Lohu (N 24-07, E 114-56), and Changmut'ou (N 22-53, E 114-06) to build anti-aircraft gun emplacements. Seven Soviets and five Soviet-made radar-controlled anti-aircraft guns were seen in these areas.
5. On 20 January, two hundred troops of the Central and South China Military Area's Anti-Aircraft Division,⁶ equipped with eight anti-aircraft guns, moved to Tungkuan (N 23-02, E 113-46) and Puchi (1580/0679). Another two hundred troops of this unit moved to the Paocan (N 22-32, E 113-56) and T'aip'ing (N 22-53, E 112-46) coastal areas.
6. On 29 January the Tungkuan hsien government ordered that all women, children, and old men living within 20 li of either side of the Paocan-Shench'uan and T'aip'ing-Tungkuan highways be evacuated from these areas.⁷ In addition, 18 villages along these highways were to be evacuated.

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7. From 28 December to early February, heavy military traffic moved along the Tungkuang-Paoan, Shench'uan-Paoan, Paoan-T'ai'ping, and Tungkuang-Changmut'ou highways. A highway protection corps was formed from youths living along these roads to conduct a 24-hour patrol.

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Comments.

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1. Available information lists T'SAI Cheng-kuo as commander of the 121 Division. [REDACTED] as commander of the 121 Division in November 1952.

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2. This same source reported the 121 Division along the CKRR in November. [REDACTED]

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3. Available information indicates that the 302 Regiment is subordinate to the 131 Division. [REDACTED] placed the 131 Division along the CKRR in late October, while locating the 132 Division along the West River in the Foshan (N 23-02, E 113-08)-Sanshui (N 23-08, E 112-54) area.
4. No such unit is known to this office. The strength figure, if correct, would indicate an artillery division, rather than a battalion.
5. The existence of the 31 Artillery Regiment has not been confirmed. The regiment has been mentioned as a component of the 8 Motorized Artillery Division, which is currently accepted in Korea.
6. No such unit is known to this office.
7. On 21 January the Hong Kong press reported that the Chinese Communists were preparing for rehearsals to evacuate the East River area in preparation for possible Nationalist attacks.

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